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ONE-SHOT
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WHEN MOTORCYCLE STUNTMAN JOHNNY BLAZE MADE A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL, HE WAS CURSED TO BECOME THE GHOST RIDER, A SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE WHO HUNTS DOWN THE GUILTY AND DISPENSES BLOODY RETRIBUTION. AND WHEN HE ESCAPED HELL, JOHNNY INADVERTENTLY FREED HIS CAPTOR, UNLEASHING HIM ON THE MORTAL PLANE. THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS' ESSENCE WAS SHATTERED INTO 666 PIECES, EACH OF WHICH WENT ON TO POSSESS THE BODY OF A RECENTLY DECEASED HUMAN. SINCE THEN, IT HAS BEEN JOHNNY'S QUEST TO HUNT DOWN EVERY LAST ONE OF LUCIFER'S AVATARS, WITH EACH DESTROYED ONE ADDING TO THE POWER OF THOSE REMAINING.

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Another Cold Night.
Somewhere Between Heaven and Hell.
...GUYS REMEMBER DEWAYNE, MY EX?
CALLED THE OTHER DAY, RIGHT OUT OF THE BLUE. SAID, "BABY... REMEMBER THAT CUTE LI'L RED THONG YOU USED TO WEAR AROUND THE KITCHEN?"
I SAID, "BABY... REMEMBER YOU SELLIN' MY VCR TO BUY SMACK?"
SHE'S GOIN' FOR THE BANK SHOT.
NEVER MAKE IT.
TOK-B-BMP
DAMN!
TOLD YA.
AW, COME ON, ROSIE. I NEED MY MONEY!
WHERE'S RICO, ANYWAY? OFF ON ONE OF HIS "PROMOTIONAL JUNKETS" WITH LOLA AGAIN?
THANKS, GUYS. THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT.
THE WORLD I LIVE IN, YOU GOTTA BE A PLAYER. A PLAYER, YOU HEAR ME? IF YOU'RE NOT A PLAYER--
--YOU'RE NOTHING.

YOU'RE NOT *IN* THE GAME, YOU'RE--
YEAH. I GOT IT.
NOTHING.
ROSIE, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. I GOTTA TALK TO RICO. THERE'S GUYS FOLLOWIN' ME EVERYWHERE-- *JIMMY T'S* GUYS.
PLUS, THIS 401-K PLAN RICO SET ME UP WITH IS *TOTALLY* FISCALLY IRRESPONSIBLE...
YOU KNOW WHAT? I'M GLAD YOU AIN'T WITH DEWAYNE NO MORE.
HA! I BET.
STILL, HE WAS BETTER THAN HARRIS. HARRIS SOLD THE PLASMA SCREEN *AND* THE DVD PLAYER.
SATELLITE DISH, TOO.
HARRIS WAS A PIG AND SO WAS DEWAYNE.
SLAM
WELL NOW!
THIS LOOKS LIKE A RIGHT FRIENDLY LITTLE WATERIN' HOLE...

The Eleventh Hour

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...
"DOWN SOUTH"?
OH, YEAH.
WAY DOWN...!
I GOT TO SAY-- I AIN'T USED TO THIS WEATHER Y'ALL GOT UP HERE.
IT IS COLDER'N A WITCH'S *NIBLET* OUTSIDE!

BARTENDER! TWO FINGERS...
NOTHIN', NOTHIN'. JUST ANOTHER BIG MOUTH BIKER.
SO WHEN'S RICO GETTIN' BACK? THIS CO-PAY ON MY HEALTH INSURANCE IS MURDER...
WAIT, NO. GIMME THREE FINGERS.
OF WHISKEY, DUMBASS.
Y'ALL GOT WHISKEY IN THIS BLASTED IGLOO?
THIS... COULD BE BIG.
NO, WAIT...
IT'S BIGGER THAN BIG.
THIS IS MY CHANCE.

...THAT GUY REMINDS ME OF RICHIE. REMEMBER HIM? WITH THE BRIGHT YELLOW MOPED?
HOW MANY LOSER GUYS YOU BEEN WITH, ANYWAY?
YOU DON'T WANNA KNOW.
'SCUSE ME, FOLKS...
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE ONE SHORT FOR A MATCH.
AND I BROUGHT MY OWN CUE.
'COURSE, I GOT ANOTHER ONE I COULD SHOW YOU, CUTIE.
IT'S EVEN SHARPER...
GET YOUR HANDS OFF MY DAUGHTER!

FSSSSHHHH-
THUNK
WHOOPS.
WHUMP
NO CHANCE FOR A QUIET DRINK NOW, EH?
NO CHANCE IN HELL.

AIIIIEEEEEEEEEE!
KLAK-KLAK
BLAM BLAM
THAT? IT'S ALWAYS LOUD IN THIS PLACE.
SO I GOT NO MONEY AND NOWHERE TO GO ON THANKSGIVING...AND I'M HAVIN' THIS WEIRD TROUBLE WITH MY PROSTATE...
BLAM BLAM
HEY NOW, BARTENDER! YOU OUGHTA KNOW--
--NOBODY LIKES A S%6#-BLOCKER!
KRAK KRAKKK

WHUD
STOP IT! PLEASE!
GET AWAY FROM HER!
JULES.. IT'S OKAY.
IF THIS IS IT...AT LEAST I KNOW, AFTER ALL, THOSE LOSER GUYS...
I FINALLY FOUND YOU.
STOMP STOMP
HEY!

YOU MIND?
I'M TRYIN' TO HAVE A CONVERSATION HERE!
YEAH, I BEEN AWAKE HALF THE NIGHT COUGHIN' UP BLUE STUFF...AND IT KIND OF BURNS WHEN I, LIKE, URINATE?
SAYS ON THE INTERNET THAT COULD BE--
AAAHHHHHHH!
BASH
KRAKK
CLANG
DO HE?
FWOOMP

WELL
YOU'RE THE LAST MAN LEFT ON THE ISLAND. FOR NOW, ANYWA--
E-LE-VEN!
I THOUGHT YOU
EONS, HASN'T
MAMMON
IN THE
PISSED
THE
IT'S A LIVING.
WAS, ANYWAY.
LOOK--I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, WHAT YOU'RE UP TO, AND I KNOW WHO'S FOLLOWING YOU.
I CAN HELP YOU.
IF...?
I WANT TO MEET HIM.

HAHAHAHAHA!
I SEE OL' BOY THIS BAR, KILL A THINK CHANCE!!"
THINK I BE A PLAYER AM I
O ME A
THIS THING IS THE WAY NO DON'T AGENT HAVIN'
THE BRAINS A BOLGIA
YOU WON'T GET INVOLVED.
WE CLEAR?

"THE MIND IS ITS OWN PLACE, AND IN ITSELF CAN MAKE A HEAVEN OF HELL...
"...A HELL OF HEAVEN."
SSSSSHHHHHHHH
WISEASS.
SLAM

NGGHHH
NGGGHHHHH
MMNNGGGHHH
AAAHHHHHHH!
ALWAYS FORGET HOW MUCH THAT HURTS.
MULTIPLE SKULL FRACTURES...BUT THE PROCESS WILL FIX THAT. AND NOW I'VE GOT A NEW BODY.
GOOD THING, TOO...
...CAN'T FIX A SEVERED HEAD.

SO MUCH FOR "DEALING WITH THE DEVIL."
HAVE TO DO THIS THE HARD WAY...
BAR
TRACKS ARE EASY TO SEE IN THE SNOW. SHOULD BE NO TROUBLE TO FOLLOW.
AND WHOEVER THIS HOG BELONGED TO...
VRRRAAAAAAAAM
...I DON'T THINK THEY'LL BE NEEDING IT ANYMORE.
CUT OFF MY HEAD, WILL YOU?
YOU DON'T KNOW WHO YOU'RE DEALING WITH.
I WAS THERE. THE DAY IT ALL BEGAN. I STOOD AT HIS FEET.
I WAS THERE.

THAT WAS A TERRIBLE DAY FOR THE UNDERWORLD--A HUGE QUAKE RAVAGED THE ENTIRE REALM. "*THE HARROWING*," THEY CALLED IT.
HELL WAS ALWAYS LIKE THAT: CHAOS, MADNESS, DEMENTIA. I DON'T KNOW IF I EVER REALLY *BELONGED* DOWN THERE...
...BUT SOMEHOW, THE PLACE ALWAYS DREW ME BACK. LIKE A KID PICKING AT A SCAB, I GUESS.
HEAVEN IS HARDER TO REMEMBER. AND, SOMEHOW, MORE PAINFUL.
THE MUSIC OF THE SPHERES...THE PURE LIGHT OF GOD...A MORTAL MIND CAN'T CONTAIN THEM. AND SOMEHOW, THEIR *ABSENCE* HURTS WORST OF ALL.
AIN'T THAT A BITCH?

FOR YEARS, I SERVED BOTH SIDES...DEEP COVER OPERATIONS, HERE ON EARTH.
FOR CENTURIES, PLAYED ONE [redacted] AGAINST THE OTHER--FEEDING EACH OF THEM JUST ENOUGH INTEL THAT THEY'D LEAVE ME ALONE.
BUT NOW IT'S ALL GONE WRONG.
HELL'S PISSED OFF AT ME EVER SINCE THAT DIAMOND BUSINESS IN THE LAND OF SHADOWLESS NOON...
...AND *HEAVEN*--THEY'VE GONE COMPLETELY DARK.
THEY'RE UP TO SOMETHING BIG--AND THEY *DON'T* WANT ME POKING AROUND IT.
[redacted] COUNTY CARNIVAL
CLOSED FOR THE SEASON
SOMEHOW...I KEEP THINKING OF HIS LAST WORDS:
"A LITTLE WHILE, AND YE SHALL SEE [redacted] NO MORE...
"AGAIN A LITTLE WHILE...
"AND YE SHALL SEE ME."

SO.

THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE.

MY TICKET BACK INTO THE GAME...

LUCIFER!
S'MATTER, JOHNNY?
YOU SOUND PRETTY TICKED.
I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE THIS PLACE.
REMIND YOU OF WHERE YOU GREW UP?
BUT NO--I KEEP FORGETTING.
JOHNNY'S NOT IN CONTROL ANYMORE, IS HE?
TOO BAD.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF HIM--
--AS THE BRAINS OF THE OPERATION.
SATISFIED

WE USED TO HAVE A BET, DOWN IN HELL.
DOES THAT FIRE GO OUT IN THE SNOW?
I ALWAYS SAID NO—
FFFSHHH
HA HA HA!
LUCIFER WINS AGAIN!
NO.
YOU LOSE.
FWOOOSH!

SKASHHH
HE'S INCREDIBLY STRONG...
...AND THAT HELLFIRE OF HIS CAN BURN THROUGH ANYTHING.
BUT THAT'S NOT WHY I NEED HIM...
NUH-UH! JOHNNY, HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED BY NOW?
EVERY TIME YOU BREAK SOMETHING—

I JUST PICK UP THE PIECES!
FRASH
FIRST RULE OF INFILTRATION: GAIN THE SUBJECT'S TRUST.
AND IF YOU CAN SCREW OVER THE BASTARD WHO *DECAPITATED* YOU, AT THE SAME TIME...
ARRHH!
...SO MUCH THE BETTER.

FOCUS, JOHNNY-- FOCUS!
IT'S WHAT SEPARATES THE MEN--
FROM THE DEMONS.
KASSSHHH
WHUMMP
HOLY CRAP.
HAS HE REALLY LAID A SMACKDOWN ON THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE?
SO-- I'VE GOT TO STEP IN.
NO...WAIT. ONLY A PROFESSIONAL COULD TELL...
...BUT HE'S SMILING.

WAIT FOR IT.
WAIT FOR THE MOMENT...
YOU JOHNNY-- I JUST THIS
THE GREAST THE HURRICANES
CHEAP AND THE EXPENSIVE ONES.
SPANG
THE
THEY'RE AND BREAKABLE.
BUT KNOW WHAT I REALLY
THING ABOUT
THE TOY'S

BUT EVERY GAME GOTTA END SOMETIME
CHOKKK
SO HEADS UP, JOHNNY
IT'S HELL TIME!
THIS.

IS GONNA HURT.
NO!
GGHHHKKK--
ELEVEN!
SMAKKK

SPSHK
WELL, NOW. LOOKS LIKE JOHNNY'S GOT A FRIEND.
DIDN'T EXPECT THAT!
BUT THEN, HALF THE FUN OF THIS GAME—
—IS THE LITTLE SURPRISE.
VRRRRRRRRROOOOOOOM

FHROOM!
BA-WHOOM
UUUHHH...

FOOL! WHY? I WAS KILL HIM!
M-MAYBE...
BUT IT LOOKED LIKE... *COUGH*...HE WAS ABOUT TO KILL YOU. AND I COULDN'T TAKE THAT CHANCE.
I NEED YOU.
NEED ME?
ALL THESE CENTURIES *COUGH* WORKING FOR HEAVEN, THEN HELL...I'VE FORGOTTEN. FORGOTTEN WHERE I CAME FROM.
I NEED TO KNOW THE TRUTH...
I NEED TO KNOW WHAT I AM.

P...PLEASE...
A DEMON...
I'M...A DEMON!
AT LAST... I KNOW.
THANK YOU...
AND JUST LIKE THAT...
...I'M BACK IN THE--

WHAT...?
NO.
OH NO...
TOO LATE.
TOO MANY YEARS UNDERCOVER. TOO MANY LIES...TOO MUCH GAME-PLAYING.
NOW...THERE'S NOTHING LEFT...
...BUT THE *MASKS.*

WAIT-- KEEP IT TOGETHER.
THIS ISN'T LOST YET.
LISTEN TO ME... JOHNNY BLAZE. KNOW THIS:
HEAVEN DESERVES YOUR WRATH...
...FAR MORE THAN HELL...
"A LITTLE WHILE, AND YE SHALL SEE ME NO MORE.
"AGAIN A LITTLE WHILE...
"AND YE SHALL SEE ME."

PLAYED YOU, JOHNNY.
LOOK AT YOU NOW, MOURNING ME. THE GUY WHO *SACRIFICED HIMSELF* TO HELP YOU STOP YOUR ENEMY.
FIRST RULE OF INFILTRATION: GAIN THE SUBJECT'S TRUST. PUTTING HIM IN YOUR *DEBT*--THAT'S EVEN BETTER.
I DIDN'T LEARN WHO I REALLY AM. I'M NOT BACK IN THE GAME YET.
BUT I *WILL* BE.
YOU'LL SEE ME AGAIN, JOHNNY.
WHEN THE SKIES CRACK OPEN...THE MASKS FALL AWAY... AND ALL HELL RAINS DOWN LIKE FIRE UPON THE EARTH.
AND ON THAT DAY...THAT TERRIBLE, TERRIBLE DAY...
...MAY HEAVEN HELP YOU.
The End

WITH TEAMWORK
ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE....

FSE

DCP

THIS FSE SCAN FROM DCP WAS SCANNED AND EDITED IN SECRET!

WE'RE NOT GOING TO SAY WHO WE ARE, BECAUSE IT'S NOT REALLY IMPORTANT.
THE IMPORTANT PART HERE IS THAT YOU HAVE A NICE DCP SCAN ON YOUR SCREEN.
<- LIKE IT? [-] BUY IT! ->